FSC Small Business Group Chain Of Custody Schemes in the UK

Group Chain of Custody (CoC) has been developed to help smaller enterprises achieve FSC certification by reducing its costs and becoming jointly certified under one certificate.

How does it work? A Certification Body audits a sample of members and carries out risk assessment of the entire group scheme rather than auditing each individual business.

A Group Manager will be assigned to ensure that all members of the group are using systems that satisfy the FSC rules. Groups can only contain businesses that have either under 15 employees (or under 25 employees and with a turnover of under $1 million).

Small businesses can join up with an existing Group Chain of Custody scheme (shown below), and trade associations, marketing groups or other groups with a common need to achieve chain of custody certification, can potentially run their own.

Please note that whilst it can be cost-effective to be part of a group scheme it is also worth getting quotes from the certification bodies - contact details can be found on the FSC UK website: www.fsc-uk.org

Here is a list of Group Chain of Custody schemes operating in the UK:

**PLEASE NOTE:**

Group Chain of Custody schemes are issued with a single certificate; group members do not hold individual FSC certificates in their own right. Therefore, if the central office or any group member contravenes the requirements of the relevant standards it may lead to the whole group being suspended or terminated.